



# **LINLITHGOW ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL**

## **Annual Report: Academic Year 2015-2016**

### **1. Parent Council membership**

The Parent Council for the academic year 2015 – 2016 was made up as follows:

#### **Parent Members (continuing):**

Kate Signorini (Chair)  
Elspeth Brown (Vice Chair)  
Helen Boxall  
Derek Wolfe  
Mark Fulton  
Douglas Gray  
Kathryn Morrison (LAA Representative)  
Laurie Boles  
Jo Smith

#### **Parent Members (joined 2015/16)**

May Geddes  
Catherine Devlin

#### **Head Teacher and Advisor to Parent Council:**

Karen Jarvis

#### **Staff Members:**

Peter Scott  
Rhona White

#### **Pupil Members:**

Various S5/S6 members of the Pupil Council

#### **Clerk:**

Jenny O'Donnell

A copy of the Parent Council Constitution will soon be made available again on the Academy website under Parent News

### **2. Summary of the year**

The Parent Council has continued to enjoy an open and positive dialogue with Mrs Jarvis and the school over the past year, offering what we hope has been constructive support particularly in regard to the Senior Phase Presentation Model and course choice guidance.

The Parent Council has continued to work towards improving parental engagement through participation at Primary 7 induction events and representation at several parent evenings during the year.

The Parent Council has supported the school in the development of its new website. We believe that this is the central means of communication with parents and carers and we have encouraged all parents/carers to subscribe to the school website to receive regular email updates and the daily bulletin. The new website is still work in progress but we are confident it is a significant improvement and will enhance the flow of information to and from the school.

Some Parent Council members were involved in the school's validation self evaluation in November 2015.

Most of the Parent Council members have now received recruitment training from West Lothian Education Services. The Parent Council welcomed the opportunity to be involved in the Deputy Head Teacher short leet exercise in May 2016.

The Parent Council has been informed by presentations from the Bereavement Officer at West Lothian Drug & Alcohol Service and from Neill Hunter – the school's 'campus cop'.

Linlithgow Academy Parent Teacher Association (LAA) held a Big Quiz night, the Christmas Craft Fair in November and provided refreshments at the Spring Concert. The Craft Fair and the Big Quiz in particular were felt to have have disappointing turnouts.

The Parent Council would like to note its thanks to the two teacher representatives, Rhona White and Peter Scott, and the Pupil Council representatives for their valuable contributions over the course of the year.

### **3. Formal meetings**

The Parent Forum consists of all parents/guardians of children at Linlithgow Academy who automatically become members on the entry of their child to the school.

The Parent Council is the committee representing the Parent Forum in the school and where necessary to West Lothian Council or other bodies.

There were 5 regular Parent Council meetings held during the academic year. Recurring items included the Head teacher's report and regular reports on behalf of Linlithgow Academy Association (LAA) and the Pupil Council. Parent Council meeting agendas and minutes are made available to view on the school's website (under Parent News): <http://www.linlithgowacademy.org/>

All parents/carers are entitled to attend the Parent Council meetings to observe the proceedings though it is helpful if you can notify the Chair in advance if you intend to attend. A number of parents/carers have attended Parent Councils throughout the year, we would like to thank them for their contributions and would like to welcome others to attend. Dates of future meetings are given below and on the school website.

#### **4. Other items**

External meetings – a number of wider parental involvement bodies exist that Parent Council members are invited to. These include West Lothian Parent Forum (WLPF) and the National Parent Forum of Scotland. The Chair or other members of the Parent Council have attended these meetings where possible.

The Parent Council has participated in a number of consultations from West Lothian Council throughout the year.

#### **5. Future Parent Council Meetings for Academic Year 2016-17**

Mon 3rd October 2016  
Tue 22nd November 2016  
Tue 31 January 2017  
Thu 23 March 2017  
Wed 24 May 2017

All meetings will be held at 7.00pm in the Conference Room, Linlithgow Academy unless notified otherwise.

Parents/carers are very welcome to come along to these meetings